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Children's Aid Society.

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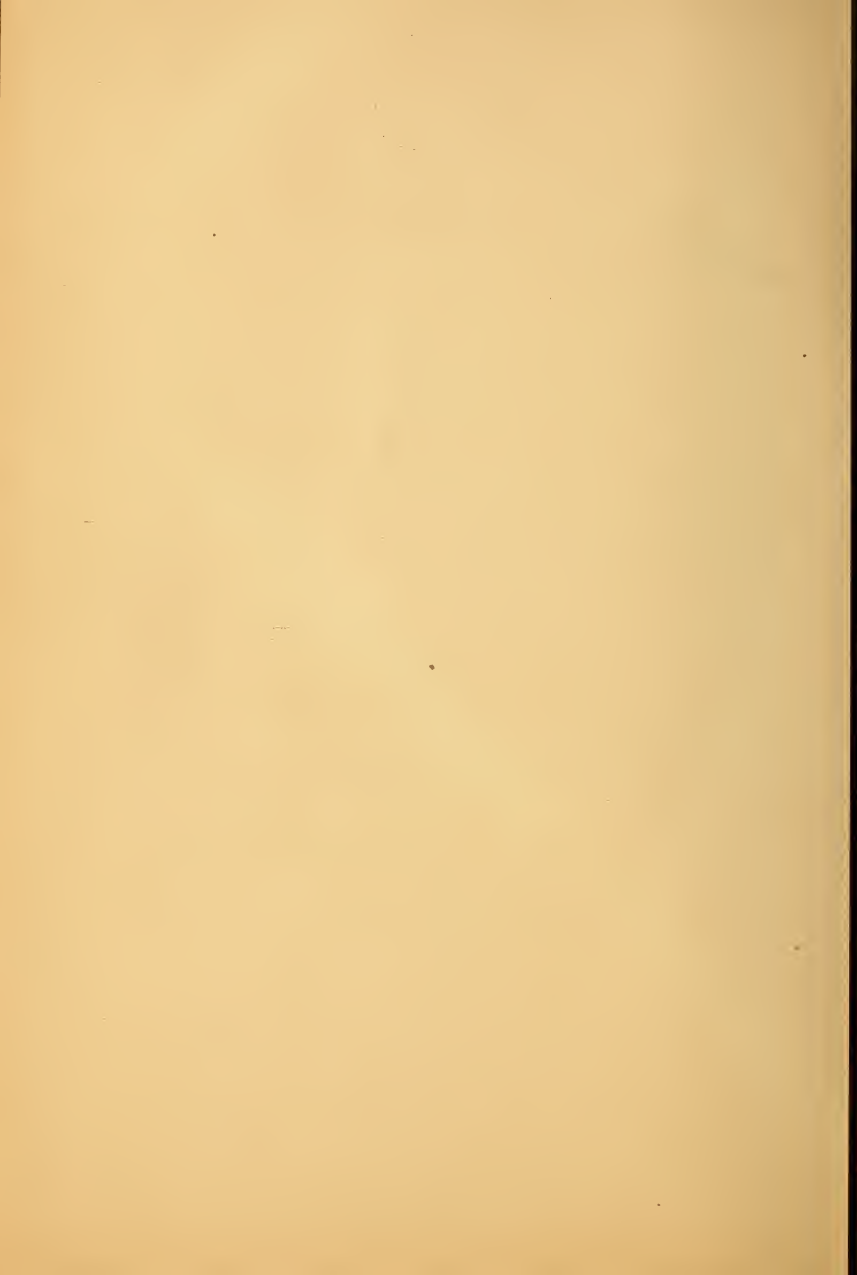
ANNUAL REPORT

BOARD OF MANAGERS

Henry Watson Children's Aid Society

FOR THE 18th FISCAL YEAR.

EDWARD J. WELCH & CO.,
JOB AND NEWSPAPER PRINTERS,
74 LEXINGTON STREET
1878.



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MANAGERS OF

The Henry Watson Children's Aid Soc'ty, '77-'78.

President :

WILLIAM B. CANFIELD.

Vice-Presidents :

JOHN CURLETT,
EDWARD OTIS HINKLEY.

Corresponding Secretary :

WILLIAM A. WISONG.

Recording Secretary :

JOSEPH MERREFIELD.

Treasurer :

JESSE TYSON.

Additional Managers :

GERMON H. HUNT,
JAS. CAREY THOMAS, M. D.,
G. S. GRIFFITH,
JOHN C. BRIDGES,
J. HARMAN BROWN,
HENRY JANES,
WM. R. BARRY,

TELFAIR MARRIOTT,
WILLIAM ELLIOTT, JR.,
SAML. D. SCHMUCKER,
FREDERICK J. BROWN,
WM. H. MILLIKEN,
R. H. THOMAS, M. D.,
E. D. BIGELOW.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Executive Committee.

J. HARMAN BROWN.
WM. H. MILLIKEN,
WM. B. CANFIELD,
JOHN CURLETT,
EDW'D OTIS HINKLEY,
GERMON H. HUNT,
JESSE TYSON,

JOSEPH MERREFIELD,
DR. JAMES CAREY THOMAS
JOHN C. BRIDGES,
FRED. J. BROWN,
WILLIAM ELLIOTT, JR.,
SAM'L. D. SCHMUCKER,
E. D. BIGELOW.

Finance Committee:

JOHN CURLETT,
GERMON H. HUNT,
JESSE TYSON, *ex-officio*,

House Committee:

JOHN CURLETT,
WILLIAM A. WISONG,
FRED. J. BROWN.

Agent

WILLIAM C. PALMER.

Matron :

MRS. WILLIAM C. PALMER.

Home of Henry Watson Children's Aid Society, 70 and 72 North
Calvert Street, Baltimore, Md.

ANNUAL REPORT.

There are four several departments organized in this institution, viz: "The Children's Department," the "Girls Home Department," "Sewing Machine Department" and the Department for instruction in cutting and fitting garments:

IN THE "CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT."

where are received and cared for poor destitute children, from parents or friends, or committed by magistrates, the Managers' report:

That since the last Annual Report there were remaining at the "Home" (returned from the country and received) 99 children, viz: 58 boys and 41 girls, ranging from 3 to fifteen years of age.

Of this number 49 have been placed out at good homes in the country:
5 have been committed to other institutions:
30 returned to Parents & Guardians from the 'Home'
3 ran off from "Home;" 1 died,

and eleven remain at the Home, awaiting places in the country, amongst farmers families, where they will be well treated, clothed, fed and educated, as required by an article of agreement with parties to whom we entrust them.

Since its organization, 1565 children (1144 boys and 411 girls) have been received into the "Home," most of whom have been placed in good country homes, where removed from the many temptations of vice and want, they have been adopted as members of the families of respectable farmers.

THE "GIRLS' HOME DEPARTMENT"

was organized October 1, 1872, for the purpose of supplying a home for poor girls out of employment, without charge, and at the low rate of two dollars a week to such girls of good character (who came recommended) as had employment, but were unable to pay more,

At present there are 16 inmates, from 14 to 20 years of age twelve of which pay no board, which fact reduces our income from this source to a merely nominal sum.

The ages of those girls received into the "Home," since our last Annual Report average from 12 to 17 years, and we feel that in providing them with a Home,—most of them without any compensation whatever, owing to their inability to obtain paying employment, we are carrying out the real design of the "Home," which under the management of its efficient matron, Mrs. William C. Palmer, is in excellent working order, and discipline, the present inmates cheerfully acquiescing in all the rules and regulations.

Owing to limited space, we have been obliged to decline receiving many worthy applicants during the past year, but trust that in the providence of God, our endowment may be increased, by the donations or legacies of those who approve of our endeavors to provide a refuge for the many innocent, friendless girls of the city who might otherwise, through the extremity of want, yield to temptation, that would blight their whole future lives.

The girls, at the "Home," are not permitted to leave the house, after tea, but spend their evenings under the supervision of the matron conversing, reading, sewing or playing, as their inclinations may prompt and in all respects appear fully contented (as they well may be) with the "House."

THE SEWING MACHINE DEPARTMENT.

Was organized Feb. 13, 1871, for the purpose of teaching Sewing, (free of all charge) to any poor respectable girls, who might apply for instruction.

During the past fiscal year, this School, has instructed 283 Scholars, with an aggregate of 14,500 lessons, the average daily attendance being 65, which is an increase over the work of last year.

The teacher in this department, (Miss Maggie McKew) is efficient and zealous and is constantly occupied with the many young girls who are eager to acquire this useful, and self sustaining art.

These girls are permitted in the "Sewing School" to make up for themselves and families, various description of wearing apparel thus greatly assisting their parents, many of whom through ignorance of the use of the needle would be compelled to put their work out, when they could hardly afford to do so. Most of the "Sewing School" scholars, are poor girls from 13 to 18 years of age, who are thus not only taught a useful art, and one that will support them, but are also kept employed, instead of being left to the dangers, and demoralizing condition of idleness.

We have learned from reliable sources, that many young girls, through the instructions

received at our "Sewing School" have obtained remunerative situations, as seamstresses, dress makers, machine operators, and nursery-governesses, and that others take in work at their own homes as tailoresses and dress makers. Ladies frequently send their domestics for instruction, alleging that with the knowledge of the "Sewing Machine" their girls are much more serviceable to them. Sewing with the ordinary needle is also taught in this school.

There are 24 Sewing Machines in constant operation, in this department. Many of these have been loaned without charge by the different Sewing Machines Agencies in this city, 4 were donated and more could be procured and many more girls, instructed, if we had larger means (which would procure larger room) to accommodate them.

During the past year the Scholars in this School, in conjunction with those of our 4th Department, viz: the

"SCHOOL FOR INSTRUCTION, IN CUTTING AND
FITTING GARMENTS."

have made up for themselves and others 1871 garments.

In this latter Department there are 89 scholars, with an average daily attendance of 50. During the year we have received 291 scholars and have furnished in the aggregate 9062 lessons.

During the year there have graduated from the Sewing Machine School, 170.--and from the School for Instruction in Cutting and Fitting Garments, one hundred and twenty-five.

These Schools having become extremely popular, require the constant care and attention of their able teacher Martha Holt and so many are the applicants for the benefits of the instruction given that we find it absolutely necessary to confine our aid to the poorly needy, so that fully one half the number of applicants, cannot be received, until increased means, enable us to enlarge our quarters.

TRANSIENT MEALS AND LODGING.

We have during the year provided a temporary Asylum for twenty-one females (women and girls) who were received into the "Children's Department." for a short time, until they could obtain situations, or reach their friends. To these were furnished in the aggregate 83 lodgings and 251 meals. All of these were respectable, but homeless women and girls, who being without means, would else have been obliged to seek refuge in our "Police Station House."

Great prudence is observed in receiving this class of applicants, there being a great number of imposters, and undeserving women, amongst us, whose entertainment might work harm to our noble charity.

The thanks of the Society are due to Dr. George Reuling, for his attention in several cases of disease of eye. Also to Doctors J. Carey Thomas, and George B. Reynolds, for attention in cases of sickness, in the Girls Home.

Thus then in each of the "Four Departments," the HENRY WATSON CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY, is

doing a good work: one that will widen and enlarge, as time goes on and its means increase.

We believe that thus far, the Lord has signally blessed our efforts and have an abiding trust, that He will continue so to do.

We cannot close this Report, without expressing our renewed obligations to our Vice President, Mr. John Curlett, for his constant, and faithful attention to the interests of the HOME, and his daily, and watchful supervision over its several departments.

On behalf of the Board of Managers,

JOSEPH MERREFIELD,
Secretary,

FORM OF A BEQUEST,

I give and bequeth unto the
HENRY WATSON CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY,
the sum of————



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